

Update...

A fabulous £150 was raised from the sale of red noses for Comic Relief - Well done everyone.



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



NEWS FROM THE HEAD

Dear Parents,

Since the beginning of this term, we have had the pleasure of the company of the very helpful and enthusiastic Mrs Nair who has been volunteering in the Prep Department three days a week. Having been a teacher in India, she now intends to become a teacher here in England - and there is no doubt that she would be a great asset to any school! The 4T children were delighted this week when as part of their Geography work on India, she donned her sari to help Miss Walter with her chapati making session; Mrs Nair had made the accompanying dhal herself and it was delicious, judging by the empty pan. Next week, she will be doing the same with 4E as well as appearing in a special role in the Pre-Prep, but wearing a very different costume...

In spite of certain technical difficulties, the Wedding of the Year took place in the Pre-Prep on Wednesday morning. All the Year 1 parents watched proudly as their children played their different parts in the ceremony; Estella and Alistair made a lovely couple, George was a very convincing vicar and Hugo the photographer made us laugh as he recorded all with his instamatic camera. Afterwards, everyone retired to the Andrews Gym for a fantastic wedding breakfast - definitely a morning to remember!

Yesterday, the Year 3 children found out which of their 500 Word Stories had been chosen by the panel of judges. This was an extremely difficult choice as the standard was high and there were many very well-written, original stories; the future of British fiction is certainly looking very bright! Nancy and Thea were Highly Commended for 'The Magic Coat' and 'Thunder Mountain' respectively, Jacob F achieved third place with his beautifully described cretaceous adventure 'The Sixth Most Deadliest Sea', Sophia came second with her exciting war adventure 'The Girl Who Went To War' and joint first were Zoe S and Zoe B who both wrote stories about cats; Zoe S wrote 'Marble's Adventure' - all about a cat who went to sea and met a dragon and Zoe B wrote 'The Moonlight Cat' - all about Zigzag the famous French detective cat.

Our 'Berky Gets Greener' project is gathering momentum. Two eco-warriors have now been elected from each class - a list of these will appear in next week's newsletter - and some children have been so inspired that they have already created posters encouraging others into greener ways of life. We are so proud that our pupils want to take responsibility for their environment and genuinely care for the planet and its wildlife. The staff, too, are very keen to be involved so there will be great things to follow!

As part of our programme of visiting Heads, the Prep School were visited today by Nicola Huggett from Cheltenham College. She gave us an interesting assembly all about the two warring brothers who founded Adidas and Puma. Three of our Year 6 children read the words of Mother Teresa at the end, imparting the message to continue to be the best we can be, even when there are setbacks or others continually try to knock us back.

Richard

Richard Cross
Headmaster

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH
SPRING TERM

Diary dates...

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tues 19th March

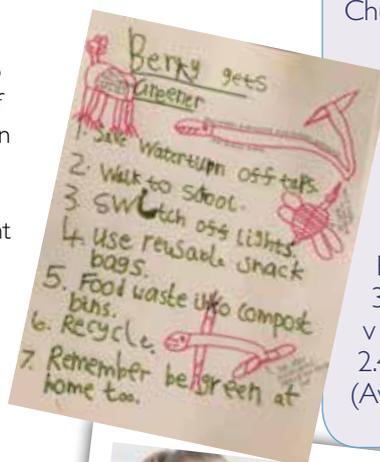
Cake at Break
4.00pm - Chess v Bishops Cleeve 'A' and 'B' teams (Away)
4.30pm - Kindergarten Parents' Evening

Wed 20th March

2.30pm - Football U10A, U10 B, U9A and U9B v Beaudesert (Away)
2.30pm - Netball U8A, U8B v CCPS (Away)
2.30pm - Netball U11A and U11B v Richard Pate (Away)
3pm - Football U11 v Richard Pate (Away)
3.45pm - 4.30pm Kindergarten Wednesday Wander
3pm - Year 1 and Year 2 'The Big Sing'

Thurs 21st March

Year 1 Superhero Party Day
2.00pm Yr 6 visit to St Luke's Church
4.15pm - Spring Music Recital
Fri 22nd March
9.00am - Kindergarten visit to Redwood Outdoor Centre (12 children)
Year 2 History Mystery Day
3pm Year 2 Parents invited to History Mystery
3.30pm - Netball U9A and U9B v Dean Close (Away)
2.45pm - Football U9B v St Ed's (Away)





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

News from Early Years...

Early Years celebrated World Book Day last week. It is a day when children and adults remember and celebrate the importance of reading for pleasure. The children and staff came to school dressed as a favourite book character. They looked great and loved talking about their book character. Mr Cross joined our class dressed as Baby Bear! The children warned him when he returned home, he would find his porridge eaten, his chair broken and Goldilocks in his bed! Thank you for the fantastic costumes you provided for the children.

We are encouraging the children to drink more water as young children do not always recognise they are thirsty and it is advised children aged 4 to 13 should aim to drink 5-8 200ml glasses of water per day, on top of the water provided by food sources. Please provide your child with a named water bottle daily and we will ensure they regularly have a drink throughout the day.

Kindergarten have taken delivery of ten living eggs, an incubator and a brooder box. We have been watching the eggs slowly crack open and we now have ten baby chicks to look after. The children have been fascinated by how quickly the chicks have changed and developed over just a few days, from hatching out, looking a little slimy, to now growing feathers and eating 2 bowls of food a day. We have had some excellent helpers to change their water, feed them grain and put fresh sawdust into the brooder to make the chicks comfortable. They have loved handling and stroking the chicks.

During our discussions children have been described the chicks as: Eddie H 'fluffy', Neve 'yellow', Chloe 'ugly', Alex P 'cute', Max LG 'tweeting beaks', Seth 'cheepy, cheepy chickens' and Ethan, 'a little bit cheeky!'



The Reception children enjoyed their parents coming into school and sharing their favourite stories with the children this week. Thank you for taking the time to come into school to share your favourite story!

Whilst looking at the story of 'Rosie's Walk', the children asked to make maps of the farmyard. We provided the children with some pictures from the story and encouraged them to add their own features to their map. The children had some fantastic ideas and drew arrows to show the way Rosie went on her walk.

During Forest School, the children went on an exciting Spring walk around the school grounds to discover the sights and sounds of Spring. They were great detectives and chose to observe the nature garden closely for any signs of Spring. To conclude this activity, the children shared what they had observed.

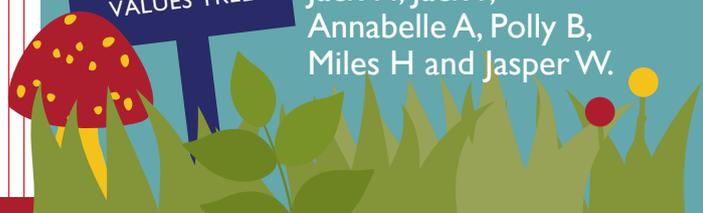
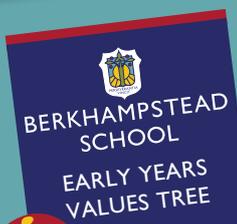
Before school, it is important for your child to go into the playground to play with their friends and line up alongside Years 1 and 2. For health and safety reasons this will also ease the congestion in the Reception area, no child should be left in Reception without adult supervision. Could you please say goodbye to your child and wait behind the gate.



THIS WEEK'S AWARDS

Kindergarten
Alex B, Seth L, Ellie K
and Chloe W.

Reception
Charlie W, Rishik AR,
Jack H, Jack F,
Annabelle A, Polly B,
Miles H and Jasper W.





BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Year 1 Wedding Guests
Take a look at our Twitter feed - @BerkyCheltenham - to view the film of the wedding proposal, that unfortunately didn't work for the big day itself. You will also see some of the official wedding photographs!

News from around the school

CHELTENHAM AND DISTRICT SCHOOLS' CONGRESS

There were plenty of successes for Berkhampstead players at the annual Cheltenham and District Chess Congress, held last Saturday at St. Gregory's School. Two of our pupils, Edith H and Oli S, shared 2nd place with 18 points from a possible 21, a mere one point behind the eventual winner. Oli also claimed the prize for the highest scoring Y5 pupil. Jonathan B finished the event in 7th place while Arsalaan H and Finian C also bagged prizes for their fine performances. Over 20 children from Berky took part in the event - including many from Y3 - and all played skilfully and in good spirits. Well played, everyone! MC

Missing...
Both labelled 'Hoskins' -
White Berkhampstead logoed
PE polo shirt and
Berkhampstead logoed
thermal top

CRICKET AFTER EASTER HOLIDAYS
CHARLTON KINGS CC offer a fun
INTRODUCTION to cricket for
Years 1 and 2 GIRLS and BOYS
on WEDNESDAY evenings
1st MAY until 10th JULY
6pm until 7pm at Reeves Field
[Cheltenham College]



BERKY ON INSTAGRAM...

Take a look at our new Instagram feed for further insight into Berky life. Follow us at [berkhampstead_school](#)



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Please note...
There will be no Girls' sports club next week, 21st March, due to staff training after school.

Sports report...

NETBALL

U8 Green v Richard Pate Won 0-4

With all three U8s teams playing away at RPS, it was going to be a busy afternoon. It was blustery with the threat of rain but nothing could dampen the enthusiasm of the Green Team, who were keen to get going. Thankfully the rain held off and after a quick warm up the match commenced. Right from the start there were some good passes between the Greens who worked well together. With good possession of the ball we had several chances in the D. By half time we were one nil up and feeling very positive. Still no rain and the second half commenced. Reminders were given to both teams to maintain a metre distance when marking, even so, the Green team were doing a great job marking and space finding! Some more great passes and we got plenty of chances in the D. This resulted in three more goals, including one very lucky one which bounced off the post back into the net! Great teamwork and a fabulous result; well done the Greens!

U8 Yellow v Richard Pate Lost 1-0

I was very encouraged by this performance against the RPS girls. Our team work is improving, and our marking and dodging are coming together. Berky had the majority of the play in our attacking third and defended well when the ball was with the RPS shooters. Berky had numerous shots but the ball just wouldn't go in the net so well played everyone for getting it down to the attacking end. Unfortunately, the RPS shooters managed to convert one of their shots to make a winning score line for them of 1-0. This was a game of real improvement and the girls should be pleased with how they played. Well done!

U8 Red v Richard Pate Won 2-1

What a game! We turned up at RPS, it was blowing a gale and started to drizzle but we were ready to fight for a win! The girls started off strong, dominating possession. Primmy was a strong centre with some fantastic centre passes. Isla made some brilliant drives onto the ball helping our team to maintain possession. After Primmy and Isla had confidently got the ball towards our attacking third Vivienne and Maisie were there to keep the pressure on, RPS struggled to get the ball from our attacking team. Alice and Nancy didn't see much of the ball in the first half of the game, but when they did they fought hard to keep the ball out of the D. Alice and Georgia made some fantastic interceptions which gave our team the advantage on more than one occasion. Nancy used her height brilliantly to gain possession. We need to work on getting a few more goals into the hoop and getting in front of our players, but none the less it was a great game and brilliant to watch and umpire. Well done girls.

U9A v Richard Pate Won 5-1

The girls had definitely 'taken notes' in last Thursday's match at St Edward's and learned from the experience because the following

day, at RPS they were on top form. From the very start, they looked like a team and played with pace and skill. Aurielle, Jennella, Lucy, Lottie and Beatrice were phenomenal in their turns in defence, preventing any goals being scored by our opposition despite the skill and 'bounciness' of their Goal Attack (although there were a couple of tense moments where they really should have scored but the ball rolled right out of the hoop!). In the D, Rosemary and Matilda were a fantastic pairing supported by Uma at centre and we saw 3 goals from Matilda and 2 from Rosemary. The whole team looked great together, worked hard and deserved their 5-0 win! Well done girls!

U9A v St Edward's Lost 9-11

As we arrived at St Edward's School, the wind picked up and the heavens opened - not ideal conditions for netball! Luckily their Sports Hall was free and so we were all able to cram in to play all five Berky teams' games back to back. This meant that the Under 9s had just 10 minute matches. But goodness me - what a 10 minutes it was! Fast and furious does not even go half way to describing the match. In those 10 minutes, 20 goals were scored, averaging one a minute. In fairness to our girls, it was their first time playing netball indoors and it took them a few minutes to adjust to all the markings on the floor and the size of the court, allowing the St Ed's girls to score 5 times in very quick succession...but they soon dug in and managed to creep back on to the scorecard and at half time it was 6-3 to St Ed's. The second half we won 6-5, but the overall score was 11-9 to them. Nevertheless, it was a superb game from which I think lots was learned!

U9B v St Edward's Lost 1-5

This was the second of the matches in the sports hall at St Ed's due to the weather and I think it is fair to say that the St Ed's girls were far more comfortable and confident with the indoor space, scoring almost instantly and then three more times before the half way point. In the second half, we did have several attempts at goal having found our feet, and Isabella was successful on one occasion, but the 5-1 final score does reflect the fact that our opposition had the majority of the possession and were able to capitalise upon this. We now need to focus on marking and dodging and not being so nice to our opposition!

U9B v Richard Pate Won 2-1

I didn't have many nails left by the end the game and think everyone watching was a bit damp and cold! The girls, however, were focused and worked so hard to get the win. I made positional changes after each quarter and the girls adapted really well; some may have found a new position! In the centre court there were some brilliant drives onto the ball leaving a few of the Richard Pate girls behind! We still need to work on getting in front of our opposition and doing quick explosive drives onto the ball. The RPS girls kept fighting back and it was a really good game of netball

to watch. Our attack worked hard to get the goals. Our shooters need to keep practising their shooting and keeping calm!

Well done girls, brilliant game to watch.

U10A v St Edward's Lost 7-12

On an incredibly cold and blustery afternoon, the girls prepared to do battle! Due to illness and injury our squad was slightly depleted and the girls were aware that they may have to play out of position for the good of the team. After the first quarter, we had barely seen the ball in our attacking D and were 5-0 down, despite some good defending from Cressie! Players were moved around and Grace showed great captaincy qualities by moving out of position to help defend, rather than scoring goals. By half time, we had managed to pull it back to 6-3 with some great shots from Eleanor and Issy. It was then Issy's turn to come out of position and by the end of the third quarter it was 7-5 to St Edward's. It was all to play for in the final quarter. Unfortunately for us, St Edward's stepped it up a level and scored two in quick succession. Grace pulled two back; St Edward's responded by scoring a further three goals. Jasmine, Joy and Isla worked tirelessly in the centre but it was just not our day.

U10B v St Edward's Lost 4-7

In the first quarter, after an early goal by Bella, St Edward's took charge and scored 4 goals. Berky were unable to find space and pass successfully. In the remaining quarters Berky really improved. They marked more tightly and found space to create chances. In the second quarter both Eleri and Hazel scored. Although St Edward's also scored two, at the back Bella and Kimora really took charge and bossed the defensive D. In the third quarter Eleri scored once more. St Edward's replied but again were thwarted by Kimora and Eleri. At this point Bella was having to play in the centre. Wherever she played she proved successful and won player of the match. In the final third there were no scores thanks to tight defending and marking. Daisy, Charlotte and Poppy all began to find space and were putting together some successful moves. Unfortunately in the final quarter we could not quite find the goal. Apart from the first quarter, we proved a match for St Edward's.

U11B v St Edward's Lost 3-8

Initially the match was even with the ball going very nicely from end to end with only 2 goals each being scored in the first half. There was great defending from Eloise, Frankie, Edith and captain Lorien - well done! The third quarter, however, did not work out so well. The St Edward's team changed their shooters which gave an excellent boost to their score; they scored 4 goals for a 6-2 lead. Lizzie and Emma worked hard in the centre of the court and made some accurate passes and the shooters of Anna, Emily and India worked well together in the circle, but it was just not to be on this occasion. The final score was 8-3 to St Edward's. Well tried!



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL



Sports report...

FOOTBALL

U8 Bisons v St Edward's

Won 3-1

This was the best football that I have seen the Bisons play this term. They are showing an improvement each time that they get on to the pitch. Given that the goals were incredibly small we did very well to score 3 times (George, Max H and Jacob DT scoring one each).

Jacob F had a great first half in goal keeping a clean sheet and Richie was excellent in defence keeping his position and clearing everything that came close to him. Ed and Azlaan also had good games making every effort to get to the ball and keeping it away from our goal.

When on pitch George, Max H and Jacob DT put lots of pressure on the St Edward's goalie which led to each of them scoring well-earned goals. A great game. Well done.

U8 Buffaloes v St Edward's

Won 3-2

On Friday 8th March, the U8 Buffaloes played a friendly match against St Edward's.

We won the coin toss and opted to have kick off, allowing us to immediately put pressure on their back line. Barnaby held his position well, always giving us an option up front but it was two beautiful finishes from Ben that put us two up before the break. Our half-time team talk was based around holding our positions and creating space - something we did much better in the second half. Max and Felix always looked dangerous on the flanks but it was Sam and Otto who were the busiest as St Edward's looked to find their way back into the game. We held out until halfway through the second half when a powerful finish from the opposition gave Arsalaan, in goal, no chance. It was the same player who levelled the match, even though Arsalaan managed to get his hand to the second strike, but was helpless as it nestled in the corner. Game on.

Both teams looked for the winner and with more precise passing we could have created more opportunities as the game headed towards injury time. Then, Ben picked up a loose ball and played it forward causing problems to their defence... in the chaos he created, the ball (somehow!) ended up in the back of the net to claim his hat-trick and what turned out to be the winning goal. A very solid performance as we move on to a match against Wycliffe.

U8 v Wycliffe

Won 10-3

This was a fantastic game for the boys to finish their season with. As Wycliffe only had one team we decided to mix the Bisons and Buffaloes and substitute regularly throughout the match. In the first half we were playing downhill and totally dominated. The majority of the half was spent around the Wycliffe goal and our keepers were not troubled at all. We finished the first half 7-0 up.

At half time Ben and Otto kindly offered to strengthen Wycliffe's team. With that and the fact that we were now playing uphill we had a much more even match. The ball went from end to end and each team scored 3 times.

Our scorers were Max H, Jacob DT, Max Y and Ben (who also scored 2 of Wycliffe's goals). Special mention must also go to Sam who was excellent in defence and George who put a lot of pressure on Wycliffe's defence.

U9A v Wycliffe

Won 4-3

In their penultimate game of the season Berky As played Wycliffe in a frustrating encounter on a wet, uneven, sticky pitch in very blustery conditions. Despite going 2-0 up within the first 10 minutes we couldn't quite string our passes together and looked a different side to the one that played so well in winning the Hatherop tournament the week before. Two mix ups in defence saw Wycliffe pull two goals back late on in the first half and we looked to be struggling with the pitch, our passing and the wind. A third goal from the home team early in the second half seemed to bring us to our senses and we began to show a little more urgency to our game. Superbly taken goals late on in the second half from Will C and Patrick showed that despite not being at our best we can still win matches. A final mention must go to Patrick who scored his third hat-trick of the season. Well done boys for a hard-fought and gritty performance.

U9B v Wycliffe

Draw 1-1

On a sloped pitch and in the gusty wind, we started brightly against a spirited Wycliffe side. Will J and Harry looked secure in defence, but were helpless to prevent a swift counter-attack which to Wycliffe taking the lead. We battled hard but went in 1-0 down at half time.

However, it was all Berky in the second half. Will S and Hugo looked dangerous on the flanks whilst Charles and Luke were constantly causing their defenders problems. Robert helped keep the side steady, allowing Albie B-C to venture forward but it was Henry who slotted the equaliser half way through the second half. Following numerous corners, throw ins and attacks, we could not force a winner and the match finished 1-1. A solid display from all of the boys, well done.

U10A v Wycliffe

Won 2-1

On Wednesday the U10A team travelled to Wycliffe. This was a tough match playing against their U11A team and the slope of the pitch along with the conditions made things a challenge. However, the boys played really well, they worked together as a team to break down Wycliffe's defence and created opportunities in front of Wycliffe's goal. Lincoln scored the first goal to make it 1-0 and the boys managed to retain this lead for the remainder of the first half. In the second half, another goal was scored by Jonny, and Wycliffe managed to claw one back to make it 2-1. There was a tense 5 minutes where our boys were trying to hold on and retain their lead whilst Wycliffe kept the pressure on and had some close shots. Alex and Alessio did a great job in goal though and the match finished 2-1.

Thank you to the parents and friends that came to support the boys.

U11 v Wycliffe

Won 3-0

In challenging conditions, the U11 boys played a super match against Wycliffe on Wednesday. Playing uphill in the first half we had most of the possession and created several goal scoring opportunities. Andrew and Noah were heavily involved, which led to goals from Jensen and Oscar H to take us 2-0 into the break.

In the second half we dominated in all facets. Fin and George were excellent in midfield, peppering the opposition penalty area with many crosses and passes. We went close several times and finally got our rewards with a well-taken goal by Ed. Oscar A kept things tight at the back and Andrew who played in goal in the second half had an untroubled 20 minutes.

Well done boys for another fine performance. Many thanks as always to our supporters for their encouragement.

